

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3947

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 DOHA 1223

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PPDC, QA, US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CARTER LETTER TO AMIR OF QATAR

REF: (A) STATE 205978 (B) DOHA 1220

1. EMBASSY TRANSMITTING HERewith TRANSLATED VERSION OF THE
MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM THE AMIR OF THE STATE OF QATAR IN REPLY TO
THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT CARTER REGARDING THE CAMP DAVID SUMMIT
CONFERENCE.

2. TEXT:

DOHA
AUGUST 24, 1978
H.E. PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF AUGUST 15, 1978, OUTLINING SOME OF
YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE FORTHCOMING MIDDLE EAST TALKS AT CAMP
DAVID AND WE APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST IN KNOWING OUR OPINION ON
THIS MATTER.

TO BEING WITH, IT IS MY WISH TO EXPRESS TO YOU MY PROFOUND
APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONSTANT EFFORTS IN THE SEARCH FOR A PEACEFUL
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SETTLEMENT TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT. SUCH A SETTLEMENT HAS
BECOME THE DESIRE OF THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO
ESTABLISH A JUST AND COMPREHENSIVE PEACE IN THE AREA BASED ON
PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE, LAW AND THE CHARTER OF OUR SUPREME
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, THE UNITED NATIONS. SUCH A BASIS IS
THE ONE THAT IS CAPABLE TO GUARANTEE THE ELEMENTS OF DURABILITY
AND STABILITY WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL FOR PUTTING AN END TO THE

TRAGEDIES OF THE CONSECUTIVE WARS IN THE AREA AND THUS AVOID
ERUPTION OF A NEW WAR WITH ITS MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CONSEQUENCES AND
OVERWHELMING ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE PEOPLE OF THIS AREA AND THE
ENTIRE WORLD.

THE FOLLOWING IS MY FRANK OPINION AS DICTATED BY THE PRESENT
CIRCUMSTANCES:

(1) THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT THE
REQUIRED STEELEMENT SHOULD BE BASED ON THE BASIC PRINCIPLES WHICH
CAN BE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS: (A) RESOLUTION 242. THE APPLICATION OF
THE PRINCIPLES PROVIDED FOR IN THIS RESOLUTION ENTAILS FIRST AND
FOREMOST THE OBLIGATION FOR ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW FROM ALL THE
TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967, INCLUDING ARAB JERUSALEM.

(B) THE RECOGNITION OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN
PEOPLE, WHICH RECOGNITION ENTAILS THAT THE LATTER SHOULD HAVE
ITS RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION.

(C) RECOGNITION OF ALL LEGITIMATE SECURITY GUARANTEES TO ALL
PARTIES CONCERNED.

(2) TO ACHIEVE THE SAID PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI
CONFLICT, ALL CONCEIVABLE DIPLOMATIC MEANS HAVE BEEN TRIED SINCE
1967 AND ALL THROUGH THE ENSUING ELEVEN YEARS UP TILL NOW. SUCH
ATTEMPTS INCLUDED: THE NUMEROUS UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS; THE
SENDING OF U.N. ENVOYS TO FRONT-LINE STATES FOR THE PURPOSE OF
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ACHIEVING THE SETTLEMENT; THE CONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE
TO ALLOW A MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONCERNED
PARTIES IN THE PRESENCE OF THE U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL AND WITH THE
ALTERNATE CO-CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE USA AND THE USSR; THE SHUTTLING
OF DR. HENRY KISSINGER AMONG THE ABOVE STATES; THE HISTORIC
INITIATIVE OF PRESIDENT SADAT, WHICH ALLOWED A BILATERAL DIRECT
MEETING ON THE HIGHEST LEVEL BETWEEN HIM AND THE ISRAELI PREMIER
IN JERUSALEM AND ISMAELIA: AND TIRPARTITE MEETING AMONGST THE
FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE USA, EGYPT AND ISRAEL IN LEEDS.

THESE ARE NOT ALL, BUT SOME OF THE ATTEMPTS, WHICH INCLUDE,
INTER ALIA, THE INNUNMERABLE RESOLUTIONS TAKEN BY THE VARIOUS
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO ACHIEVE THE SAME
PURPOSE.

(3) IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT ALL THOSE ATTEMPTS HAVE FAILED, DESPITE
THE FACT THAT THE ARABS HAVE GIVEN UNEQUIVOCAL EVIDENCE OF THEIR
CONFIRMED DESIRE IN ESTABLISHING PEACE, SECURITY AND GOOD
NEIGHBORHOOD WITH ISRAEL ON THE AFORE-MENTIONED BASIS. IT IS,
LIKEWISE, KNOWN THAT THE ONLY REASON FOR THAT FAILURE LIES IN
THE PERSISTENCE OF ISRAEL IN ITS AGGRESSIVE POLICY AND ITS
ADHERENCE TO ITS EXPANSIONIST DESIRES AT THE EXPENSE OF THE ARAB

LANDS, RIGHTS AND SOVEREIGNTY, PAYING NO ATTENTION TO THE PRINCIPLES OF LAW AND PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER, AND THE UNANIMOUS WILL OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WHICH CALLS FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT ON THE SAME BASIS.

IT IS EVIDENT THAT ISRAEL WOULD HAVE NEVER TAKEN SUCH A POSITION IF IT WERE NOT FOR THE VARIOUS HUGE AMERICAN ASSISTANCE WHICH IT HAS BEEN RECEIVING CONTINUOUSLY UP TO THIS DAY.

(4) IN VIEW OF THE DANGER OF RUNNING INTO AN IMPASSE WHICH CURRENTLY CONFRONTS THE REQUIRED PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT FOR THE REASONS MENTIONED ABOVE AND CONSIDERING WHAT THIS SITUATION MIGHT LEAD TO IN THE WAY OF A NEW WAR WHICH WOULD THREATEN INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, YOUR EXCELLENCY HAS CALLED FOR A CONFIDENTIAL

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MEETING IN CAMP DAVID WHERE YOU WILL PLAY THE ROLE OF A COMPLETE PARTNER. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT YOUR ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER TO AVOID THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT RUNNING INTO AN IMPASSE WITH WHICH THE CURRENT CHANCE FOR PEACE WOULD BE LOST, IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

WE, AS WELL AS THE ENTIRE WORLD, HOPE THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE SUCCESSFUL AND A POSITIVE CONCLUSION IS REACHED FOR THE REQUIRED DURABLE, COMPREHENSIVE, JUST AND PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. THOSE RESULTS CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY IF ISRAEL RECOGNIZES THE PRINCIPLES AND BASIS TO WHICH THE ENTIRE WORLD HAS FOUND IT NECESSARY TO ADHERE. THE ARABS THOROUGHLY SUPPORTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL FAMILY CAN NEVER ACCEPT ANY OTHER PRINCIPLES AND BASIS.

(5) WHILE WE SINCERELY PRAY FOR THE SUCCESS OF YOUR TRIPARTITE SUMMIT MEETING, IT APPEARS THAT OPTIMISM FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH SUCCESS IS INCONCILIABLE WITH THE PERSISTENT STAND TAKEN BY THE ISRAELI PREMIER AND OTHER TOP OFFICIALS WHO REJECT THE CHIEF AND FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND BASIS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED UPON BY THE WHOLE WORLD.

REGARDLESS OF THE DIFFERENCES THAT MAY ARISE IN INTERPRETING THE NATURE OF THE ISRAELI DECLARATIONS, THEIR MOTIVES AND PURPOSES, THERE ARE CERTAIN MATTERS THAT HAVE BECOME QUITE OBVIOUS. THESE MATTERS ARE THE BASENCE OF POINTS OF ACCORD WITH ISRAEL DUE TO ITS ARROGANCE AND PERSISTENT DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE THE OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES AND ITS DENIAL OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. WHILE THE ARABS SINCERELY ASPIRE TO A JUST PEACE, ISRAEL IS COMPLETELY UNWILLING TO REACH IT. WHILE THEY HAVE GIVEN ALL THEY CAN TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING A JUST PEACE, ISRAEL HAS SPARED NO MEANS TO TORPEDO ALL SUCH ATTEMPTS.

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ACTION NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 TO 2 DOHA 1223

(6) IT IS NO EXAGGERATION, BUT INDEED THE STATEMENT OF A FACT, THAT THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE AT CAMP DAVID IS A DECISIVE POINT SINCE IT IS THE LAST POSSIBLE DIPLOMATIC CARD.

THE WORLD IS QUITE AWARE OF THE COMMITMENT OF THE U.S.A. TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL. IT IS ALSO QUITE AWARE OF THE HORRIBLE SINS COMMITTED BY ISRAEL AT THE EXPENSE AND IN EXPLOITATION OF THAT COMMITMENT. IN FACT, IN THE COURSE OF THIS EXPLOITATION, ITS THOUGHTLESSNESS OF ALL LEGAL AND POLITICAL PRINCIPLES AND OF ALL RELIGIOUS, MORAL AND HUMAN VALUES HAD EXCEEDED EVERY IMAGINABLE LIMITS. THE RESULT IS THAT THE WORLD HAS BECOME CLOSER TO THE BRINK OF A STAGE CHARGED WITH THE MOST EXPLOSIVE RISKS, MONGST WHICH COULD BE A NEW WAR IN THE AREA, AND SOONER OR LATER THE LIKELIHOOD OF THE BREAKING OUT OF A THIRD WORLD WAR.

INDEED, IT IS HIGH TIME FOR ISRAEL TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE USA COMMITMENT TOWARDS IT IS INTENDED TO SAFEGUARD ITS SECURITY AND NOT ITS AGGRESSION ON THE SECURITY OF OTHERS, OR THE EXPANSION OF ITS HEGEMONY OVER THEIR TERRITORIES AND THE VIOLATION OF THEIR SOVEREIGNTY.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BEING THE COMMITTED PARTY, IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN RECTIFY THE WRONG ISRAELI UNDERSTANDING OF ITS COMMITMENT. IT IS WITHIN ITS HANDS AND NOT IN THOSE OF OTHER, TO PUT AN END TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS COMMITMENT IN CASE ISRAEL EXPLOITS IT IN SUCH A WAY AS TO DIVERT IT FROM ITS PURPOSES.
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COULD ISRAEL'S EXPLOITATION OF THE SAID USA COMMITMENT MATERIALIZE IN A WORSE MANNER THAN THAT REPRESENTED IN ITS PRESENT ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE USA ITSELF, THE LATTER BEING DETERMINED AS

IT IS TO SPONSOR THE REALIZATION OF PEACE ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES MENTIONED ABOVE, AND TO ASSUME THE PIONEERING ROLE IN THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, FIRST AND FOREMOST OF WHICH IS MAN'S RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION?

7. WE, AS AN ARAB STATE, AND CONSEQUENTLY AS A FULL AND DIRECT PARTY TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, WATCH WITH THE GREATEST INTEREST, TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER ARAB STATES AND ALL PEACE-LOVING STATES, THE OUTCOME OF CAMP DAVID SUMMIT CONFERENCE WHICH WE CONSIDER AS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD HISTORY DUE TO THE MULTI-DIMENSIONAL RESULTS THAT WILL COME OUT OF IT IN BOTH CASES OF SUCCESS OR FAILURE.

AS THE SUCCESS OF THIS CONFERENCE IS DEPENDENT ON BRINGING ISRAEL TO COMMIT ITSELF COMPLETELY AND EXPLICITLY TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE JUST AND OVERALL PEACE IN THE AREA ON THE BASIS OF AFRE-MENTIONED PRINCIPLES, IT HAS BECOME AN IMPERATIVE NECESSITY TO PRESS ON IT SO AS TO AGREE TO SUCH COMMITMENT IN ORDER TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE, IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE WORLD INCLUDING UNDOUBTEDLY THOSE OF ISRAEL, TO OPEN THE WAY FOR THE NECESSARY AND EXTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALL THE OTHER PARTIES CONCERNED ON ALL PROCEDURAL AND SUBSIDIARY TERMS AND ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING EACH ONE OF THEM.

(8) IT IS DOUBTLESS THAT IT WAS WORTHWHILE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS, BEING THE AUTHORITY THAT TOOK THE DECISIONS DETERMINING THE PRINCIPLES AND LAYING DOWN THE BASIS FOR THE OVERALL AND JUST SETTLEMENT IN QUESTION, TO TAKE AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME THE PROCEDURES STIPULATED IN ITS CHARTER FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE DECISIONS. REGRETFULLY, MATTERS WENT OTHERWISE. CONSEQUENTLY
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THE WORLD FINDS ITSELF NOW CONFRONTED WITH THE PRESENT RISKS THREATENING ITS SECURITY AND SAFETY.

AS YOUR EXCELLENCY TRULY STATES, THE WORLD CANNOT AFFORD AN IMPASSE. AS WE CROSS THIS CURRENT DECISIVE STAGE, AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF SALVAGING THE PRESENT INVALUABLE OPPORTUNITY FROM BEING WASTED AS IN PREVIOUS INSTANCES, IT SEEMS IMPERIOUS FOR THE USA TO EXERCISE THE DECISIVE PRESSURES ON ISRAEL REQUIRED FOR THE SUCCESS OF CAMP DAVID SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN THE SENSE EXPLAINED ABOVE. THE LOGIC OF THINGS SUPPORTED BY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SUPREME INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS BASED IN ITS TURN ON THE ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, MORAL IDEALS AND HUMAN VALUES, LEADS TO THE INEVITABILITY FOR THE USA TO EXERCISE THE SAID NECESSARY AND EFFECTIVE PRESSURES TO ACHIEVE THAT SUCCESS. IT ALSO LEADS TO THE RESULT THAT SUCH PRESSURES ARE ENTIRELY CAPABLE OF ACHIEVING THEIR PURPOSES, IN VIEW OF THE SUPREME WORLD POSITION OF THE USA AND OF THE DECISIVE MEANS WITHIN HER REACH VIS A VIS ISRAEL WHICH OWES HER EVERYTHING.

THIS IS A SUMMARY OF MY VIES. I AM CONVEYING IT TO YOU UPON YOUR
REQUEST. I WISH TO EXPRESS TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, MY HIGHEST
CONSIDERATION COUPLED WITH MY SINCERE WIHES OF SUCCESS.
KHALIFA BIN HAMAD AL-THANI
AMIR OF THE STATE OF QATAR

END TEXT

3. AS STATED REF (B), DR. HASSAN KAMEL (ADVISOR TO THE AMIR AND
DE FACTO FOREIGN MINISTER) EMPHASIZED THAT THIS TRANSLATION WAS
THE BEST THAT COULD BE DONE CONSIDERING THE TIME LIMITATION AND
SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDRED AS THE OFFICIAL VERSION IN LIEW OF THE
ARABIC TEXT SUBMITTED.
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Message Attributes

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